

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

1515 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
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**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION**  
**ACTION TAKEN TO REFORM CALIFORNIA PRISON SYSTEM**  
**&**  
**IN SUPPORT THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

- September 2005**      The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) provided direction to institutions which addressed the issue of overflow housing in Administrative Segregation Units. This direction helped to free up valuable celled housing and reduce crowding.
- October 2005**      CDCR signed contract with two community correctional facilities (CCF) (Baker and Leo Chesney) that provided a total of 482 male and female CCF beds. The previous contracts had expired.
- November 2005**      CDCR submits proposals to Department of Finance/Governor's Office asking for authority to contract for 8,500 male and female CCF beds.
- December 2005**      CDCR signed contract to reopen Mesa Verde CCF which provided 360 male beds (facility had been closed since December 2003).
- January 2006**      Governor's Budget proposed 8,500 contracted beds—4,500 for females and 4,000 for males beginning in 2007/08.
- CDCR signed contract with CCF facility (McFarland) which provided 200 male CCF beds. The previous contract had expired.
- Governor's Budget proposed Strategic Growth Plan which would have provided 27,600 beds in county jails dedicated for state prison inmates beginning in 2009/10 and construction of two new prisons adding 9,200 beds.
- NOTE: Based on the projected population growth, the combination of the proposed contracted beds and the beds in the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan would have provided additional state prison capacity through 2019.**

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Provided testimony to Assembly Public Safety Committee on the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan for Public Safety (AB 1833)

**February 2006**

Inquiry sent to the six current publicly contracted CCF requesting information on immediate availability of additional inmate beds. Response resulted in additional 485 beds available at five of the public facilities.

Provided testimony to Senate Public Safety Committee on the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan for Public Safety (AB 1833)

**March 2006**

Request for Information (RFI) released to public agencies requesting information on immediate availability of inmate beds in existing city or county facilities or jails. Responses resulted in 200 additional beds available at an existing county jail.

**April 2006**

Request for Information (RFI) released to private entities on the Department of General Services Contracts Register requesting information to lease any existing, retrofitted, or new construction of facilities/building to house inmates.

Request for Proposal (RFP) released to any public or private entity to contract for 4,000 male offender CCF beds, as proposed by the Governor's January 10 budget.

**May 2006**

Mandatory bidder's conference for public/private entities contracting for 4,000 male offender CCF beds.

RFI released to any public or private entity to contract for 4,500 female offender CCF beds, as proposed by the Governor's January 10 budget.

**June 2006**

CDCR provides testimony to Senate Public Safety Committee on AB 2066 (Lieber) which included language to authorize CDCR to contract for 4,500 female CCF beds.

**Governor Schwarzenegger announces special session to be held on Prison Overcrowding and Recidivism on June 27.**

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- July 2006** RFP released on **July 7** to any public or private entity to contract for 4,500 female offender CCF beds, as proposed by the Governor's January 10 budget.
- Enacted budget provided additional contracting authority to expand the capacity of Leo Chesney CCF by another 60 beds.
- July 10** Staffs of individual Assembly members and key committees are provided an overview of proposals on **July 10** that will be submitted to the Legislature for consideration during the Special Session.
- July 10** Press Briefing conducted on **July 10** Secretary Tilton and Administration officials on the release of the Inmate Population, Rehabilitation and Housing Management Plan and other legislative proposals to be discussed in Special session.
- July 12** Senate Republican Caucus briefed on the plan **July 12**.
- July 14** Briefing on the Reform proposal conducted **July 14** with local elected officials, community groups, and stakeholders.
- July 14** A Request for Proposal is sent nationwide **July 14** to 13,000 local entities for community beds requesting information regarding the availability of existing, renovated or new construction of facilities/buildings for lease, to house male or female adult inmates.
- July 14** Legislative Briefing on the Female Offender Reforms and Community Facilities proposal is conducted **July 14**.
- July 17** Senate and Assembly legislative staffers are briefed on **July 17** a proposal to establish community-based facilities for female inmates.
- July 20** On **July 20**, CDCR Secretary James Tilton (a) testifies on overcrowding and reform strategies before the Assembly's Select Committee on Prison Overcrowding and Construction.
- July 20** Media representatives are briefed **July 20** via teleconference regarding Female Offender Community Correctional Facilities by Secretary Tilton.

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- July 24** Briefing conducted **July 24** for Assembly Republican Caucus regarding proposals that will be submitted to the Legislature during its special session regarding prison overcrowding and reform.
- August 2006** The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation releases cost estimates of the Governor's Prison Reform Package. CDCR briefed legislative staff members followed by briefing members of the media on the costs.
- August 7** Special session of the Legislature begins **August 7** to address the urgent issues of recidivism and overcrowding in California's adult prisons and juvenile facilities.
- August 14** CDCR Secretary James Tilton, joined by authors of legislation, briefs media on Prison Reform Special Session bills.
- August 15** CDCR Secretary James Tilton and executive staff members scheduled to provide overview of prison population for California State Senate Select Committee on Prison Population Management and Capacity. Overview hearing scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5066, State Capitol.
- August 16** CDCR Secretary James Tilton and executive staff members scheduled to provide briefing of Prison Reform proposals to California State Senate Select Committee on Prison Population Management and Capacity. Informational hearing scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5066, State Capitol.
- August 19** Assemblywoman Nicole Parra and CDCR Secretary James Tilton conducted a town hall meeting **August 19** in Delano to discuss the prison reform proposals in the special legislative session regarding efforts to relieve prison overcrowding. The discussion included details on the concept of Community Correctional Facilities.
- August 22** Assembly member Sally Lieber conducted a press conference on with CDCR Secretary James Tilton on **August 22** to discuss a special report by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), "Reducing the Incarceration of Women: Community-Based Alternatives," that supports Governor Schwarzenegger's

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female offender reform proposals. Joining the Assemblywoman and the Secretary were representatives from Assemblyman Rudy Bermudez, Assemblyman Todd Spitzer, state and national women's and children's advocacy groups, the NAACP and other organizations.

- August 23** A Request for Information (RFI) was issued to 58 state counties on **August 23** to solicit responses from local agencies on possible locations for community-based, reentry facilities in California. The reentry facilities, part of Governor Schwarzenegger's prison reform proposals, will assist inmates and parolees in making a successful transition from prison to their communities.
- August 25** The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) hosted a tour on **August 25** of the Santa Fe Springs Family Foundations Program in Los Angeles County. Wendy Still, Associate Director of CDCR Female Programs, Program Director Angela Knox, and female offenders/residents and program staff were on hand to answer questions and take reporters through the facility.
- August 29** CDCR Secretary James Tilton issues a press statement on **August 29** on legislative package that would allow the Department to continue on its mid- and long-term goals to add more than 34,000 beds. Secretary Tilton also urges legislators to reconsider short-term relief proposals.
- August 29** CDCR Secretary James Tilton testifies on **August 29** before a joint legislative committee, where legislation is passed and sent to the floor of the Senate for vote.
- August 30** California State Senate on **August 30** passed the prison reformed package, moving the package to the state Assembly.
- August 31** On **August 31** the Assembly fails to act on the prison reform legislation as the legislative session comes to a virtual end.
- September 1** CDCR Secretary James Tilton issues statement **September 1** expressing his disappointment on the failure of the Legislature to pass any of the prison reform proposals to relieve severe overcrowding in the state's prison system.

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**September 4**

CDCR issues survey to inmates on **September 4** seeking volunteers to available beds outside of California. The survey will continue the remainder of the week.